

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

An adapter unit for a rigid knee airbag is provided. The adapter unit enables a rigid knee airbag to be in communication with an inflator having a diffuser portion for disseminating inflation fluid into the airbag. The rigid knee airbag includes a front panel and a back panel. The adapter unit may include an impression formed in the back panel. The inflator may include a male fastener attached to the diffuser portion of the inflator. The inflator may be inserted into a large orifice in a first substantially planar end portion of the impression such that the male fastener extends through a small orifice in a second substantially planar end portion of the impression. A female fastener may then be used to attach the inflator to the second substantially planar end portion. Alternatively, the adapter unit may include a housing that is similar to the impression formed in the back panel described above. Alternatively still, the adapter unit may include a raised portion formed in the back panel, the raised portion including an orifice having a diameter that is slightly smaller than the diameter of the diffuser portion of a disk inflator.

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